

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0030] of the Substitute Specification with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

[0030] Then by closing the safety strip 36 the pallet 6 with its load is secured, removed from the lifting gear 35 and a new empty pallet is moved into the starting position shown in Figure 4. Meanwhile the pallet loader 7 is standing while the transposing device 4 continues to operate. The layers 5 now formed are not set down on sliding table 12, however, but instead are placed on the carriage tin due to the lengthened set-down stroke (H) with the sliding table 12 assuming its end position on the right. Then the carriage 10 is shifted by one layer's width. This operating cycle is repeated until ~~[[they]]~~ the pallet change is completed and the pallet loader is again ready for use and is removing the first layer for the new pallet from the sliding table 12 or the buffer 9. The pallet loader 9 is now working together alternately with the sliding table 12 and the carriage 10, i.e., it alternately takes layers 5 from the conveyor zone 8 and from the buffer 9. This makes use of the fact that the transposing device ~~[[5]]~~ 4 needs a certain amount of time until it is filled with the number of bottles 2 required for a complete layer. During this period of time, the sliding table 12 may already be moved beneath the transposing device 4 and the gripper head 34 of the pallet loader 7 has free access to the layers 5 on the carriage 10. As soon as this alternate removal of layers 5 from the conveyor zone 8 and/or from the buffer 9 is concluded, the layers 5 are removed only from the sliding table 12 until the pallet 6 is completely full. Then more layers are again inserted into the buffer in the manner described above.